

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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For Immediate Release

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Edward E. McNally, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that **TERRY LEE THRAMS**, age 45, of Marion, Illinois, pled guilty on December 2, 2005, in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois to a one-count Information charging possession of child pornography.

THRAMS faces possible penalties of a term of imprisonment of up to 10 years, a fine of not more than \$250,000, and a term of supervised release of up to 3 years. **THRAMS'** sentencing is set for March 2, 2006, in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois.

The evidence established that during the years 2002 to 2004, **THRAMS** downloaded images of child pornography from the Internet. A forensic examination of **THRAMS'** computer found numerous images involving child pornography, as well as several video clips involving child pornography, located on the computer.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Marion Police Department, and the Carbondale Police Department.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George A. Norwood.

The United States Attorney's Office, in conjunction with federal, state, and local law enforcement authorities, is actively investigating and prosecuting individuals who produce, distribute, or possess child pornography, or are involved in the exploitation of children. Anyone with information concerning the use of the Internet for the purposes of possessing, producing, or trafficking in child pornography or for child exploitation is encouraged to contact their local police department or the Federal Bureau of Investigation.